



Bound for Bowen

The restored dome for Bowen's iconic North Head Lighthouse makes its journey home

Global thought leader

Science informs the sustainable development of NQBP's ports with research shared globally

Business awards

Supporting local businesses and recognising their contribution to the region

Infrastructure investment

A major upgrade at the Port of Abbot Point to improve operational and safety capabilities

WELCOME ABOARD!

On behalf of the NQBP team, I welcome you to the first edition of Bowen PortLife.

As our newsletter title suggests, there is more to NQBP's role in the Bowen region than managing the Port of Abbot Point.

Obviously, our commercial focus is on creating value for our customers by building the capacity and capability of our ports.

However, business sustainability relies just as heavily on taking the lead on environmental protection measures and earning the ongoing support of the communities in which we operate.

This edition features several reports that speak to NQBP's commitment to the Bowen region and beyond – including its proactive approach to environmental protection, which is earning the international recognition so important to us as an island trading nation.

We are also proud of our strong community connections, notably through our sponsorship of events including the Bowen Collinsville Business Awards, this year's Superboats, Bowen Fishing Classic and Bowen Youth Festival.

We do hope you enjoy learning more about our business and our expansive role in the local community.

Please enjoy Bowen PortLife and remember you can also stay in touch with NQBP through our website and Facebook page.

Steve Lewis
CEO, NORTH QUEENSLAND BULK PORTS



PORT COMMUNITIES



ABOVE IMAGES COURTESY OF EMB PHOTOGRAPHICS

SUPERBOAT ACTION

Spectators at the Bowen Superboats, held in July, were able to witness the action up close, from what is considered the best vantage point, thanks to NQBP and the Bowen PCYC. For a gold coin donation more than 1000 people were granted access to the Bowen Wharf to capture all the round one action of the Australian Offshore Superboat Championships, as competitors reached speeds in excess of 200km/hr. Event goers were also able to enjoy a tugboat tour from Bowen Towing and a sausage sizzle run by the PCYC's RUBY Crew.

• LEARN MORE ABOUT THE RUBY CREW ON PAGE FOUR OF PORTLIFE.



Colour Xplosion brightens Bowen

Bowen has never seen anything quite like it before – hundreds of locals and visitors putting the fun into a 'fun run' at the town's aptly named Colour Xplosion.

As the climax to four days of activities at the first PCYC Bowen Youth Festival, more than 300 people ran, walked and skipped their way around Mullers Lagoon before celebrating in an explosion of powdered colour.

Bowen PCYC Community Development Officer Madonna McLeod said the run was one of the first events locked in for the festival thanks to NQBP coming on board as an early sponsor.

"Events like these brings the whole family together and is a great thing for the community," she said.

"We would usually have to travel to Brisbane or the Gold Coast for something like this so it is great to have this event in Bowen.

"It's a fun activity for the whole family – and the only time I think you can put fun and run in the same sentence," she added.

One measure of the event's appeal was the involvement of runners from Collinsville and Airlie Beach.

NQBP CEO Steve Lewis said the Bowen Youth Festival and Colour Xplosion fitted well with NQBP's community engagement strategy.

"The festival is a great initiative to entertain young people during the school holidays," said Steve.

"It was exciting to see the Bowen community embrace something which will hopefully become an annual event.

"NQBP is proud to be involved with such a positive community initiative and congratulates the Bowen PCYC on the success of the festival."

STAY IN TOUCH

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SMART PORTS - BRIGHT FUTURE



Terry nails local business award

A lifetime of service to the Bowen community was acknowledged at the 2016 Bowen Collinsville Business Awards with Mitre 10 store boss Terry Pilcher's award as NQBP Employer of the Year.

Nominated by his own staff for the award, the Pilcher family has been running the hardware business since 1957.

"I was very surprised when I heard the staff had nominated me for this. I probably got more out of that than actually winning the award," Mr Pilcher told the Bowen Independent.

There to present the Employer of the Year Award for a second year was NQBP Commercial Manager Paul Crack, who described the event as a great opportunity for members of the Bowen and Collinsville communities to recognise the work so many people are doing to build a brighter future for the region.

"In addition to facilitating trade and helping our customers grow their exports through our ports, we get a great deal of satisfaction from supporting the local communities and businesses that support us," he said.

The other nominees in the category – runner-up Natalie Lee of Cleanlee Cleaning Services; Amanda Brockbank of Horseshoe Bay Café and Beach Bar; Janet Lobegeier of the Pit Pony Tavern and Tracey Chrzanowski of Good Start Early Learning – were also congratulated for their contributions by Paul.

Terry Pilcher employs six permanent and seven casual staff at his Bowen hardware store, and is well known across the district for his community involvement.

The nominees were judged on customer focus, their business ambassador qualities, innovation and positive contributions to their local community.

ABOVE NQBP'S PAUL CRACK WITH RUNNER UP, MARK RUSSELL, ON BEHALF OF NATALIE LEE (CLEANLEE CLEANING SERVICES) AND (RIGHT) WINNER TERRY PILCHER (PILCHER'S MITRE 10)

Bowen gems shine brightly

And in a relatively short time, they have made a big impression with us at NQBP.

The RUBY-NQBP partnership began at the Bowen Superboats in 2015, and has gone from strength to strength through opportunities including the inaugural 'Bowen Colour Xplosion' – part of the PCYC coordinated Bowen Youth Festival.

PCYC Community Development Officer Madonna McLeod says partnerships with organisations like NQBP helps to make the 'crew' so successful.

"The nearly \$1900 we raised through being allowed to ask for gold coin donations from people using the Bowen Wharf during the Superboats event will go towards helping the RUBY Crew attend the State PCYC Awards where they are nominated for Youth Management Team of the Year," Ms McLeod said.

The RUBY (Representing and Uniting Bowen Youth) Crew is a group of young people aged from 12-22 years, from different cultures and backgrounds but with a common denominator in calling Bowen or Proserpine home.

"Groups like these couldn't do what they do without the support of partnerships like the one we have with NQBP.

"Through new and different youth events we hope to continue to grow this partnership for the benefit of the RUBY Crew."

RUBY Crew member Mackenzie Crow-Nelson said crew members often called each other family.

"The Crew has been involved in a large number of events and activities for the PCYC and the local community as a whole since the very start," Mackenzie said.

"In the past 12 months the Crew has volunteered for community events nearly every weekend, ranging from Rock and

Revs, Superboats, the Debutante Ball and Bush Poets – to name a few.

"As a result the Crew has volunteered an astounding total of more than 5,000 hours over the past year."

The RUBY Crew has built such a strong reputation within their communities that they are often asked to assist schools, churches, age care facilities, community service groups and other not-for-profit community groups.



Billy's passion to light up Bowen

In his modestly labelled 'Grandad's Workshop' in suburban Brisbane, master plumber Billy Sheridan indulges a passion for history, and taking centre stage for several months has been the restoration of the dome from Bowen's North Head Lighthouse.

The Bowen landmark's 150th anniversary is being marked by a community-inspired and locally sponsored makeover.

NQBP has been proud to join Whitsunday Regional Council and the Bowen community in supporting the restoration of the lighthouse – believed to be the third oldest in Queensland and one of only two intact on their original site.

NQBP contributed \$15,000 towards the restoration through a Sustainable Partnership Grant, with CEO Steve Lewis describing the project as a "perfect fit" with NQBP's long-term commitment to the Bowen community and the region's maritime history.

Billy Sheridan's artisan credits include the restorations of Brisbane City Hall, St John's



Cathedral and the Queen Victoria Building in Sydney – but there is something special about lighthouses.

"I loved working on the Cleveland lighthouse 16 years ago, and to bring another one back to life is a great feeling," says Billy.

Each piece of timber, steel, brass and glass recovered from the dome has been either replaced, replicated or meticulously restored in Billy's workshop.

Billy learned his trade in the city of Birmingham – a famed UK metal manufacturing centre.

"Every street in Birmingham has at least one heritage-listed house, so my training involved working every day with lead and brass," he says.

Billy has built a national reputation for his craftsmanship in the restoration of historical buildings and describes the North Head Lighthouse project as "something special".

NQBP CEO Steve Lewis said that like the Bowen Wharf, the North Head Lighthouse was part of Bowen's fabric.

"It was great to see Bowen rally behind this project, and while there are many people to be thanked, the Whitsunday Regional Council and the Bowen Independent were instrumental in turning an idea into reality," he said.



ENVIRONMENT

Sustainable ports for healthy oceans

NQBP has told a major industry conference that global scrutiny of port development in Queensland had helped to identify a strong and united focus on avoiding and minimising environmental impacts.

Speaking at the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) Ocean Planning Conference in Vancouver, Senior Manager Sustainability Simona Duke said NQBP had made significant strides in more universally demonstrating its environmental and sustainability credentials.

"NQBP has and will continue to lead efforts to demonstrate how ports can continue to operate sustainably adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef," she told port authority executives from the Caribbean, Latin America, the USA and Canada.

"The avoidance and minimisation of on and off-shore environmental impacts is a priority consideration in port planning and that is being achieved in Queensland through proactive communication with stakeholders, the knowledge gleaned from rigorous, recognised science and policy decisions that balance science with community and economic needs."

NQBP's commitment to sustainability was reflected in its embrace of leading practice in port planning in its three ports in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area (Abbot Point, Hay Point and Mackay).

"We take our environmental and social responsibilities as seriously as our commercial acumen," she said.

As well as noting NQBP's contributions to overarching regulatory frameworks such as Australia's Reef 2050 Long Term Sustainability Plan, Simona highlighted NQBP's ongoing support 'on the ground' for initiatives including the Mackay-Whitsunday Healthy Rivers to Reef Partnership, a revised Ports Australia Dredging Code of Practice and a corporate Sustainability Plan.

"We are also very proud of our EcoPorts Program – a robust package of integrated environmental monitoring that is producing significant new data on seagrass, coral and water quality that NQBP is sharing among stakeholders including governments, scientists, industry and environment groups," she said.

"This is an example of a strong and united approach to getting the balance right to ensure Queensland's vital trading ports and the Great Barrier Reef can continue to co-exist for the benefit of this and future generations."

NQBP is the first Australian port authority to affiliate with AAPA and be invited to address one of its major events.



PARTNERSHIP HELPS TURTLE EDUCATION

With turtle laying season about to start, Merinda State School students took a timely opportunity to learn about marine debris and how to best protect local sea life.

Bowen Sea Turtle Assessment and Rehabilitation (BSTAR) founder Tracey Bazzo told Year 3 and 4 students at the Bowen Library of the dangers fishing lines and hooks, plastic bottles, bags and other debris pose to turtles of all sizes. Speaking regularly with students forms an important part of the education process and Tracey's role.

NQBP has been a proud sponsor of BSTAR for the past three years. The partnership began when NQBP sponsored the newly established rehabilitation group to expand their facilities to enable them to care for more turtles.

BSTAR is part of the Marine Animal Strandings Volunteer Network that coordinates turtle rescue efforts along the east coast.

GETTING A NATURAL PERSPECTIVE

Understanding natural condition and change is the focus of a new monitoring initiative at NQBP's Port of Abbot Point.

Inshore fringing corals around both Holbourne and Camp Islands have recently been surveyed by the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS) to provide a baseline from which researchers can monitor the natural health of the area's inshore reefs.

NQBP's ambient coral monitoring program will be conducted twice yearly and will complement the ambient marine water quality and seagrass monitoring programs already in place at the port.

"Having the surveys undertaken before, and then again after, the wet season will give us better insight as to the effects of storms, floods and cyclones on coral communities in these inshore areas," says NQBP Senior Manager Environment Kevin Kane.

"Understanding natural changes on our inshore reefs will make a major contribution to NQBP's ongoing environmental management at the Port of Abbot Point."

This recent survey is the first in another NQBP long-term environment program, and will add to the wealth of scientific data they provide to the regions Healthy River to Reef Report Card, as well as contributing to the Great Barrier Reef reporting information already gathered by the team at AIMS.



TRADE FACILITATION

SNAPSHOT: ABBOT POINT

The Port of Abbot Point is Australia's most northern coal export port and one with remarkable potential for trade growth in coal and other opportunities. In naturally deep water, the port is located 25 kilometres north of Bowen, at the northern end of the Galilee and Bowen coal basins. The port incorporates the Adani Abbot Point Terminal with a current export capacity of 50 million tonnes per annum.

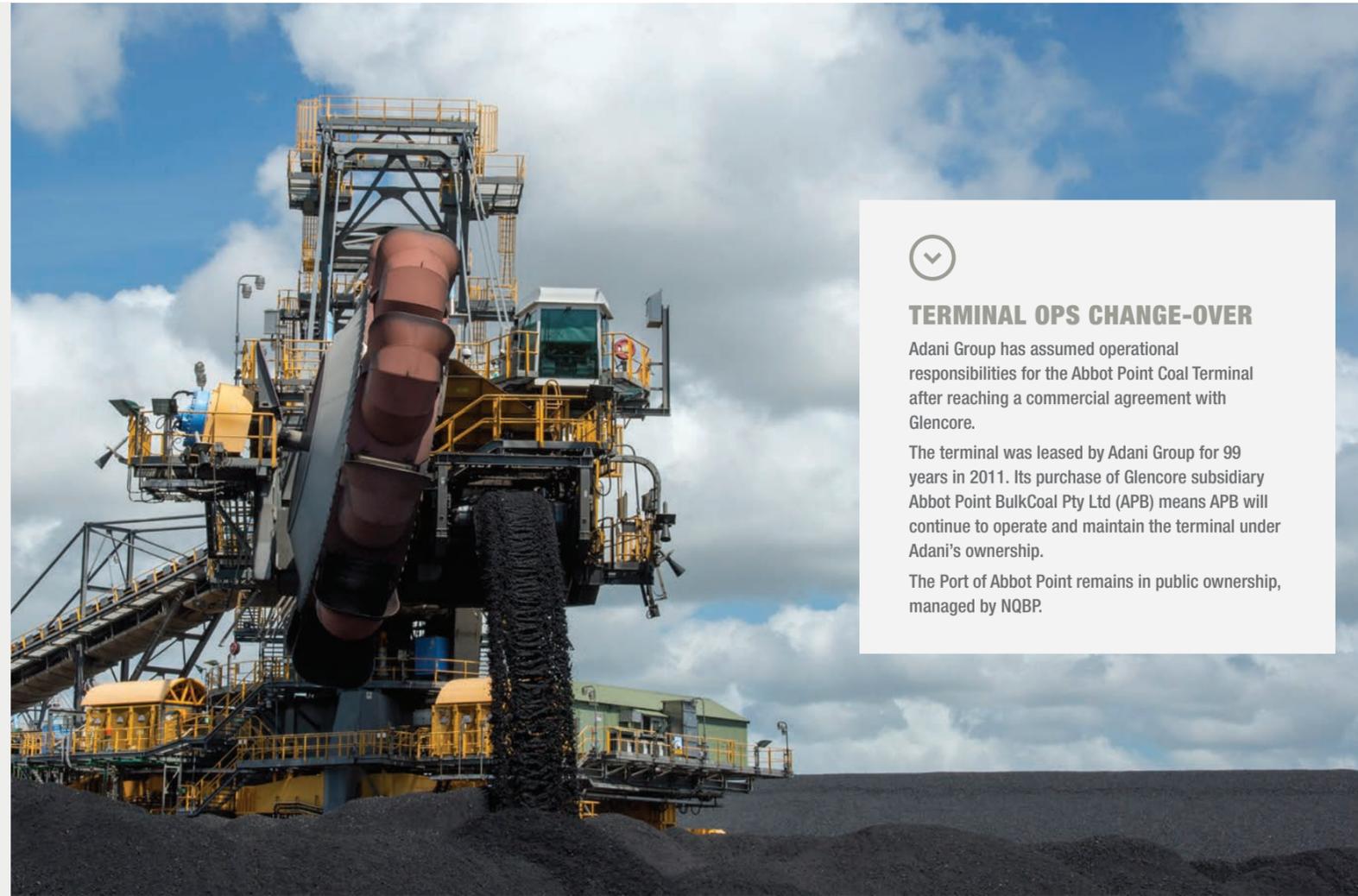
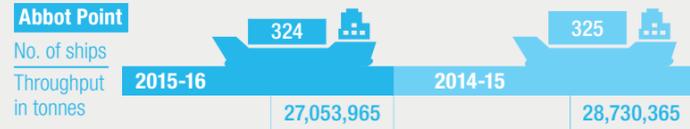
50

million tonnes per annum
NOMINAL COAL
EXPORT CAPACITY



SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

The Port of Abbot Point is equipped with rail in-loading facilities, coal handling and stockpiling areas and a single trestle jetty and conveyor connecting to two offshore berths and two ship loaders 2.8 km offshore



TERMINAL OPS CHANGE-OVER

Adani Group has assumed operational responsibilities for the Abbot Point Coal Terminal after reaching a commercial agreement with Glencore.

The terminal was leased by Adani Group for 99 years in 2011. Its purchase of Glencore subsidiary Abbot Point BulkCoal Pty Ltd (APB) means APB will continue to operate and maintain the terminal under Adani's ownership.

The Port of Abbot Point remains in public ownership, managed by NQBP.

NQBP leaders visit Bowen



Abbot Point's long-term potential as one of Queensland and Australia's most valuable multi-commodity trading ports has been highlighted in NQBP's annual report to State Parliament.

"The vision for Abbot Point is that it continues to grow as a key strategic coal port, and over time, leverages benefits from the adjoining State Development Area to become a hub for imports, processing, manufacturing and export activities of other industries of regional, state and national significance," the report says.

This assessment was reinforced during a recent visit to Bowen by NQBP Board members and senior managers to meet with community leaders including Whitsunday Regional Council Mayor Andrew Willcox and CEO Barry Omundson (pictured above with Peter Tait, Steve Lewis, Brad Fish and Stephen Golding).

NQBP Chair, Brad Fish said the visit was part of NQBP's ongoing commitment to working collaboratively with the community to maximise existing and emerging trade opportunities in Bowen and the surrounding region.

"The Port of Abbot Point is a strategic asset to Queensland owing to its proximity to the Abbot Point State Development Area, the Bowen and Galilee Basins and North West Mineral Province," Mr Fish said.

"Its naturally-occurring deep water access and relative isolation from urban development ticks more trade growth boxes, but that's not the whole story for NQBP.

"Our social and environment performances share equal billing in our goal of long-term sustainability.

"We are the only port manager in the world responsible for the operations of three major ports in a World Heritage Area, which are also a lifeline for regional industries and communities across central and north Queensland."

MOF investment supports Abbot Point future

Almost 35 years after construction, the Marine Offloading Facility (MOF) at the Port of Abbot Point is the subject of a major upgrade to improve port operational and safety capabilities.

The \$8.5 million project is scheduled for completion this year and is another example of NQBP's commitment to sustainable development across all of its ports.

MOFs are relatively small-scale landing facilities that allow the offloading of break bulk cargoes – from heavy equipment to machinery that may be required at the port or destined for transportation inland.

This project revitalises the existing facility to provide a safe, multi-user facility that can provide a cost effective means for large cargoes to be delivered to north Queensland.

The maintenance dredging will relocate sand that has built up in front of the MOF and restore a naturally occurring two-three metres of depth to accommodate equipment barges and emergency vessels.

The dredged material – tested and found suitable for 'beach nourishment' – is being relocated to a rocky foreshore to the north of the MOF, helping to reinstate the natural movement of the sand.

The project reflects NQBP's strategy of active trade facilitation and was announced last January, as part of the Queensland Government's Accelerated Works Program.

"Abbot Point's long-term potential as one of Queensland and Australia's most valuable multi-commodity trading ports is well understood," said NQBP Chief Executive Officer Steve Lewis.

"The MOF upgrade adds another dimension to the port's commercial capabilities, while creating new economic activity in the Bowen region and providing NQBP with a long-term investment that will be repaid over time through user charges," he said.



THE UPGRADE INVOLVES:

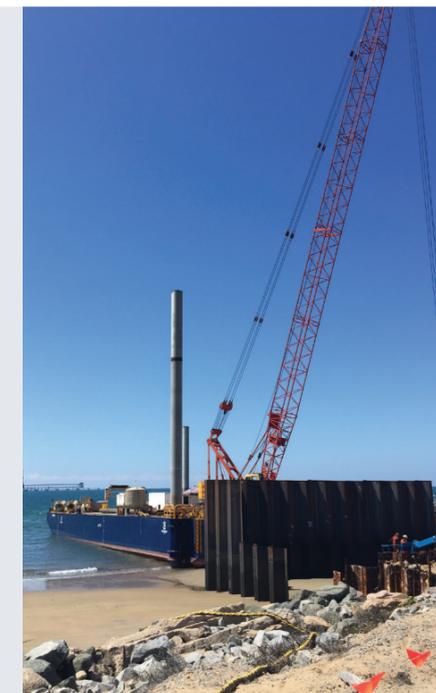
Installation of new steel sheet pile walls with realignment for better functionality.

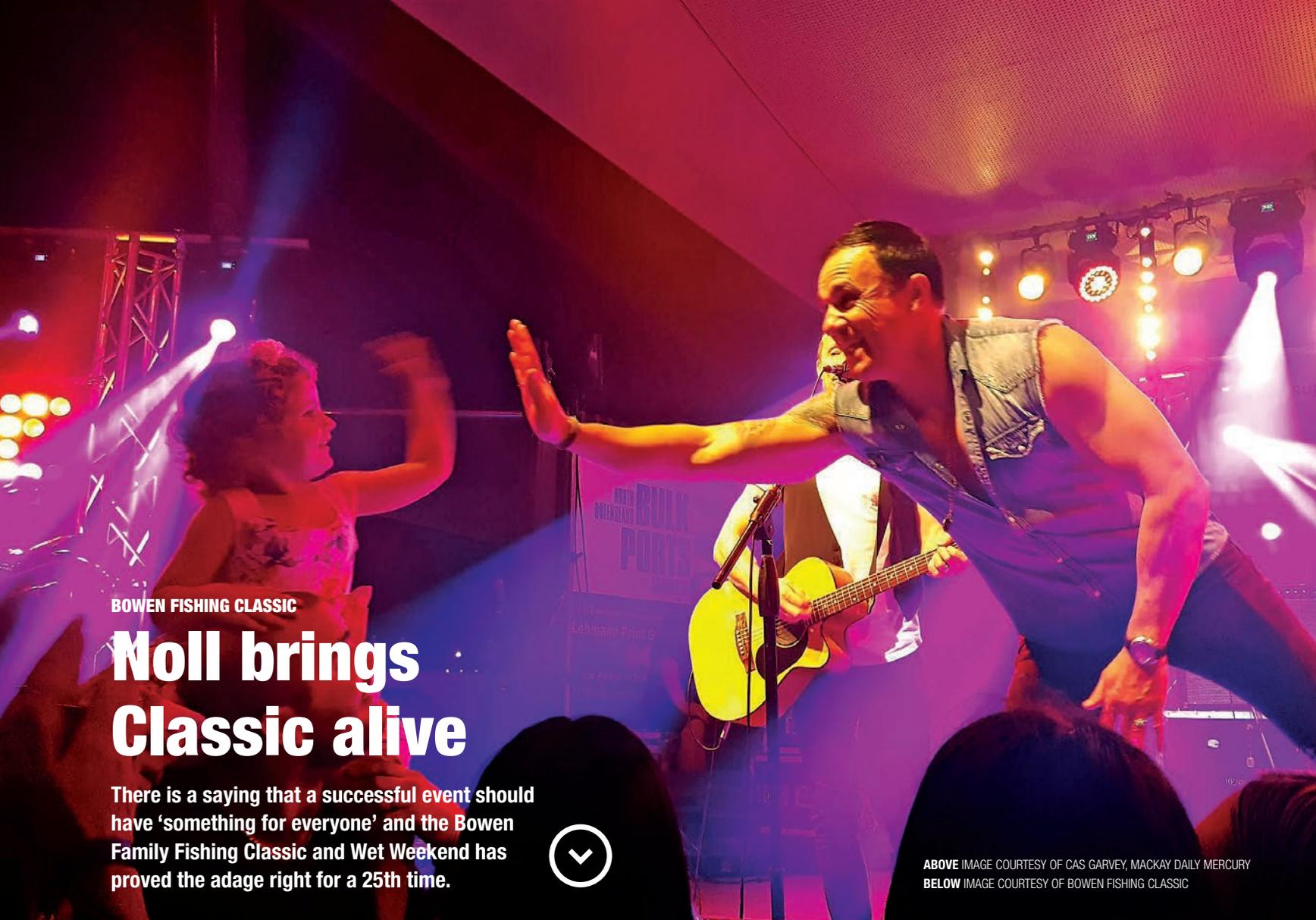
Replenishment of the existing breakwaters.

Minor concrete works around the top of the sheet pile walls.

A barge/boat ramp for launching small boats (presently done on the beach).

Maintenance dredging and beach nourishment.





BOWEN FISHING CLASSIC

Noll brings Classic alive

There is a saying that a successful event should have ‘something for everyone’ and the Bowen Family Fishing Classic and Wet Weekend has proved the adage right for a 25th time.



ABOVE IMAGE COURTESY OF CAS GARVEY, MACKAY DAILY MERCURY
BELOW IMAGE COURTESY OF BOWEN FISHING CLASSIC

NQBP proudly played its part in making the event's silver anniversary extra special by sponsoring headline entertainer Shannon Noll's Saturday night concert in front of thousands of fans, including three year-old Lilli Carus.

‘Classic Crew’ organiser Sharon Bradford commented: “Australia’s favourite son literally had the town on its feet with his unique way of tapping into pure emotion that’s both his own and instantly relatable.”

And Sharon has no doubt crowd numbers across the weekend reached record levels.

“Visitors and tourists came down to Bowen’s front beach to just enjoy time with family and friends, and of course, some refreshments,” she said.

Top drawer entertainment was just part of the weekend package as the fishing contest proved.

The biggest fish at weigh-in was a 24kg Spanish mackerel caught by Drew Morgan, while Melissa Eisemann was awarded top female angler after checking in with a 5kg-plus coral trout.

Landlubbers weren’t forgotten either with competitions covering yabby pumping, cake crunching, crawchie racing, sandcastle building, cast net throwing and sprinting.

Congratulations Bowen. We’re looking forward to 2017.

